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THE DEVOTION OF WOMEN

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*** [NON-PARTY.

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[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]

Notes and News.

The Revolution in Russia.

The wonderful and astounding news of the revolution which has made a democracy of Russia, has been followed by other significant intelligence from Roumania that shows more clearly than ever how deeply felt is the hope of enfranchisement and belief in free institutions which inspires the great struggle for liberty. In a remarkable speech in the Parliament at Jassy, Professor Jorga is reported to have said that in the serfdom of the peasants lay the inherent weakness of Roumania, and that freedom alone could give the elements of national strength and national spirit. In the midst of the awful calamity of a war brought upon Europe by a militarist autocracy, and while "democracy is on its trial," nation after nation realises that only through democracy lies the way of salvation. It is stated in the Press that "universal suffrage" has been proclaimed in Russia by the new Government.

Conference of Labour Organisations.

A National Conference representative of the Trades Union Congress, National Labour Party, Parliamentary Labour Party and Women's Industrial organisations, was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on March 20th, to consider their attitude towards the report of the Speaker's Conference and any legislative proposals for electoral reform based thereon. The following resolution, moved by Mr. J. R. Clynes, M.P., and seconded by Mr. Gosling, was, after a long debate, and the incorporation of some amendments, carried unanimously :—

"That this Conference, representing the industrial and political organisations of the working class, both men and women, while adhering to its repeated demands for complete adult suffrage, and other such reforms in registration and constituencies as will make elections clearly representative of the popular will, welcomes the efforts made by the Speaker's Conference to arrive at an agreement upon these questions; it is of opinion that the Parliamentary Labour Party should support as a minimum the Resolutions of the Speaker's Conference, provided that the enfranchisement of women, including women wage-earners and widows, is agreed to, and calls for immediate legislation on the general lines of the Report, so that a decision of a truly national character may be given at the forthcoming General Election. This Conference further requests the Parliamentary Labour Party to endeavour to secure the inclusion of women on the broadest possible basis, and especially to ensure that the bulk of the wage-earning women are not excluded from any Franchise Measure."

A deputation was empowered to wait upon the Prime Minister and present the agreed decision of the Conference.

The Miners' Amendment.

On the previous day the miner's representatives had met to consider their action, and had decided to support the Speaker's Conference proposals, providing that the inclusion of women in the electorate was upon the same terms as men. At the Labour Conference this amendment was moved on their behalf by Mr. Smillie, and supported by Miss Mary Macarthur, but after an animated discussion, it was defeated by a majority of 1,562,000 to 931,000 (card voting).

There is one matter for surprise in the deliberations on this amendment, and that is the attitude taken up by some of the women's organisations represented at the Conference. Not a month ago a very remarkable measure of agreement was reached among the societies working for Women's Suffrage, and a joint resolution was accepted and signed and published in their names. It is difficult to see how the organisations which signed that resolution, whose text we once more reproduce below, can reconcile their action in agreeing to it with their subsequent action when the miners' amendment was under discussion. The resolution runs as follows :—

"That we, representing the undersigned societies, recognising that a Bill based on the recommendations of the Speaker's Conference will confer the suffrage upon women, though not upon the terms for which we stand, urge the Government to introduce such a Bill without delay, provided that it contains as an integral part provisions for the enfranchisement of women."

The Labour Party and Electoral Reform.

It is very encouraging to see how truly the Labour Party are the friends of the enfranchisement of women. The fact that their only difficulty arose from the desire to enfranchise more women than the actual proposals of the Conference, is very important, and still more so is the fact that, passionately though they believe in the principle of adult suffrage, they are prepared to accept a measure which falls far short of it for the sake of breaking down the sex barrier.

It is a curious situation which forces us who stand for the vote for women upon the same terms as men, to regard an amendment couched in those very words as an amendment dangerous to our cause, and it goes much against the grain to rejoice that it was not carried. Nevertheless, we must so rejoice. As the political situation stands at present, our friends of the Labour Party have done us a real service by accepting, for their part, the compromise that we, on our part, have also unwillingly accepted.

The resolution with this addendum incorporated in it gives expression to the opinion, which all Suffragists share, that if it can be avoided, the enfranchisement of women should not proceed upon lines which leave out just those classes of workers who most need the protection of the vote. With every word said in support of these opinions we are naturally in complete agreement, and now that the Labour Party is definitely pledged not to endanger everything by raising obstructive criticism, we are all in complete accord.

Criminal Law Amendment Bill in Parliament.

While the proposal to raise the age of consent to seventeen years has not been adopted by the Committee, the very much more valuable provision of the Bill—namely, that which abolishes the right of a man to plead in cases of criminal assault that he had reasonable cause to believe the girl was over sixteen, has been adhered to. Since the Home Secretary

threatened to drop the claim if both proposals had been adopted, the members of the Committee were well advised in preferring the provision abolishing the plea of reasonable cause to believe, as it will *in effect* protect girls of an age of one or even two years higher than at present. The women's agitation for a law of solicitation based on equality of treatment for men and women scored a victory against the Home Secretary, when the Committee voted by sixteen to fifteen against Clause 6, which had the effect of increasing the penalties against prostitutes. Some useful points on the dangers to liberty of giving power to imprison prostitutes on police evidence alone were brought out by Mr. Greenwood and Mr. King. No doubt, also, the opposition of the National Union of Women Workers and the Association of Registered Medical Women, quoted in Committee, helped to defeat this clause.

An Amendment seeking to penalise the frequenters of brothels, and another giving power to detain in homes or to place under guardianship girls under eighteen charged with solicitation, were withdrawn, but the penalties on brothel-keepers were further increased by an amendment giving power to inflict together both fine and imprisonment.

Women's National Service.

Such full reports of the Women's National Service Meeting at the Albert Hall last Saturday have appeared in the daily Press that it is needless for us to give any detailed account. All the speakers paid high tribute to the work that women have already done since the outbreak of war, and all were agreed that they would be called upon to take a far greater part in the national service before the war is won. But those among the audience who went expecting to hear of numerous fields of public service were doomed to disappointment. A spirit of intense enthusiasm pervaded the meeting, but the speeches, as a whole, were perhaps calculated to damp this ardour rather than increase it. Mr. John Hodge, the Minister for Labour, stated that more women have registered at the Labour Exchanges than can at present be absorbed in industry—a sign, he said, not of unemployment, but of zeal for service. Miss Markham dwelt on the many difficulties of substitution, and explained that it must necessarily be a slow process, involving, as it does, negotiations which must be carried on trade by trade and locality by locality.

Miss Markham's explanation of the policy of her Department will, however, be welcomed by the thousands of women who have registered their names at different times for national service, with no result. They meant, she stated, to appeal to women on specialised, not on general lines, in connection with an ascertained demand. They wanted to organise certain sections of work, safeguarding the conditions and rate of pay; and they meant to stimulate and encourage the ordinary channels of supply and distribution, co-ordinating all existing agencies, not dislocating or upsetting organisations already in running order. This is sound common sense; and unless the Women's Service Section gets entangled in the red tape of other Government Departments, it should accomplish its purpose more quickly in the long run by hastening slowly.

While the various speakers made it quite clear that there is to be no general mobilisation of women, appeals were made for several special classes of work.

Mrs. Tennant put forward several ways in which women can be of immediate service. One of the tasks which the enemy's act of sinking our ships entailed was, she said, to supply timber for war needs. Women would be wanted for the lighter classes of work in connection with the felling of trees and preparation of the timber. The help of any of their overseas sisters who had experience in this direction, would be specially welcome; a few, indeed, had already volunteered. The conditions for work in connection with timber-felling are, we understand, much the same as those for women working on the land, and training centres will be open soon.

Other urgent requirements are cotton and wool, of which both we and our Allies are short. It is intended to carry out a house-to-house collection of all the waste material, such as old blankets, and other woollen or cotton goods, and for this purpose volunteers are wanted. From information received later, we learn that voluntary helpers will be asked to make house-to-house calls to arrange for the collection of rags, and there will be a large number of local *depôts* where these can be sent. From there the rags will be sent to a central *depôt*, after being sorted by professional rag-pickers. Cotton rags will be sold by tender for paper-making. Wool rags will be sent to Yorkshire, purified, and sold by auction for the heavy woollen trade. Any sum that may be over after defraying working expenses will be given to the Red Cross Society. Clothes that can be given to poor people should not be sent. Volunteers for canvassing should write to the Women's Section of the National Service Department, St. Ermin's Hotel, S.W.

Mrs. Tennant also laid stress on the need of voluntary helpers for the very important work of Children's Care Committees, Infant Welfare Centres, and Schools for Mothers, and stated that there was a shortage of district nurses.*

Mr. Prothero outlined the Board of Agriculture's scheme for placing women on the land, and made it clear that there is a very urgent need for strong, healthy women to volunteer at once. But he made no attempt to paint the conditions of agricultural life in rosy colours. He rested his appeal on the greatness of the sacrifice and the question of national need. Maintenance, he explained, would be given during instruction, and also an outfit, made to measure (a qualification which excited much laughter). The wages would be 18s. a week at least, or the wage rate of the district, whichever is the higher. Accommodation would be carefully inspected, and no woman would be left alone on a solitary farm. Forms of application can be obtained from all Post Offices and Employment Exchanges.

A war land worker may be recommended for promotion to group leader, and will then receive higher wages and a distinctive armlet. A group leader may be recommended for promotion to instructor in a training centre, with increased pay. Selected members of the Women's Land Army who wish, after the war, to farm on their own account, and to form themselves into groups for this purpose, will be separately registered, and every effort will be made to secure for them special facilities for settlement on the land, either at home or in the Dominions.

Since the meeting, further particulars have become available with regard to the arrangements made for London recruits. The Farm and Garden Union (Queen Anne's Chambers) are co-operating with the Women's Department of the Board of Agriculture, Victoria Street, in organising training, and a number of training centres are already available in various counties. Pupils will be accommodated on farms or billeted in cottages, and there will also be some hostels. Candidates will be selected by the London Selection and Allocation Committee, and, after training, will be directly under the Board of Agriculture, from whom they will receive maintenance in a hostel if they are not employed immediately.

The Farm and Garden Union prefers women of a well-educated class to factory girls, who are apt to miss the gay life of a town and become restless in the country, and it finds that farmers, as a rule, would rather employ educated women. The Union considers, however, that domestic servants with some experience of country life might make good land workers.

It appears that the question of suitable accommodation, which has been a great stumbling block in the way of a wider employment of women on the land, is really to be tackled seriously. With regard to wages, while 18s. is fair enough for the newly trained, a higher wage should, we feel, be established as a minimum for skilled workers with some months' experience. There is, apparently, no attempt to be made to differentiate between the skilled milker and butter maker, for example, and the girl who can only undertake the simplest jobs.

Lord Derby asked for recruits for the Voluntary Aid Detachments (Headquarters: Devonshire House, Piccadilly, W.), and his appeal will, we feel sure, meet as ready a response as that which was made last summer on behalf of the Red Cross Society. With regard to clerical and other service in France, Lord Derby stated that there had been far more than enough applicants, and that no woman would be accepted who had left other forms of national work in order to volunteer. Preference would be given to those who had already done the same kind of work at home.

Women who take their work seriously must feel grateful to the speakers at the Albert Hall for the candour with which the needs of the moment have been laid before them. There is some disappointment that the fields of immediate activity are not wider—for not every woman is strong enough physically for work upon the land or in a Voluntary Aid Detachment, while many have responsibilities which preclude them from working for so low a wage as is offered. But at least the position is now clear; and women who do not feel that they can undertake any of the forms of national service at present open to them, must hope that their opportunity will come later.

* A letter on this shortage, signed by the Presidents of a number of Nursing Associations, appeared in *The Times* on March 19th.

The Women's Municipal Party.

(Speech given by the Duchess of Marlborough, November, 1916.)

In putting forward the urgent need for a greater number of women on local governing bodies we must consider the needs of a community in general, and especially focus our attention on those poorer districts where the positive evils of neglect are bound to fall most heavily upon the poorest and least capable.

We know, for instance, that over-crowded dwellings, unsound food, unclean milk, the lack of necessary scavenging are conditions which affect the poor far more than the rich, since they are conditions which the lack of money intensifies, and are also more likely to lead to epidemics and to a heavy infant mortality rate in slum areas, than in less populated districts.

In a book on Democracy and Social Ethics I came across this sentence: "To attain individual morality in an age demanding social morality, to pride oneself on the results of personal effort when the time demands social adjustment, is utterly to fail to apprehend the situation." And I believe that it is this need for social adjustment, this innate desire for a more democratic conception of social ethics such as is found in the service of the community which is prompting women to take up the wider obligations of citizenship.

It is, first and foremost, the desire to express their citizenship in a living and concrete form which leads women to the, not always pleasant, task of forcing their candidature on an unwilling majority. And when we remember what is to many a no less distasteful fact, namely, that women represent more than half the population of this country, it is surely to the advantage of the community as a whole, if women awakened to the obligations of citizenship and to the need for social adjustment conveyed by the democratic ideal.

There is, I think, another equally comprehensive reason which actuates women to take a more active part in local government; it is the knowledge that at least three-quarters of the most pressing social problems deal with the welfare of women and children. In the period of industrial reconstruction, which will follow after the war, among the questions which will demand immediate settlement are :—

Equal pay for equal work.

The abolition of sweated work and the regulation of children's work.

The provision of decent hostels for women who have been driven to the brink of destitution and have yet managed to retain their self-respect.

The education of the girl so that she may be fittingly prepared for her first duty in the care of her child, the introduction of a far higher standard of social hygiene, and the protection of maternity and infancy.

Women realise that they must have a voice in these questions which so closely concern their economic status and the welfare and education of their children.

But the administration of an ever-increasing number of matters affecting public health, together with the care of motherhood and infancy, have been handed over to the Metropolitan Borough Councils, and it is these questions which have caused the Women's Municipal Party to make a special appeal to the Metropolitan Borough Councils to co-opt women during the period of the war, since we believe that these questions demand the urgent attention of the councils, and that women because of their special knowledge and experience would be invaluable in helping to carry out the recommendations of the Local Government Board. We know, for instance, that the Local Government Board considers the appointment of health visitors a necessity, but there is a need of nearly half again the number of health visitors in England and Wales if the adequate ratio of one health visitor to every 500 children is to be obtained.

Then, again, I am told that the voluntary work which is being done in the infant welfare centres and crèches already established in London is excellent, but it is surely illogical not to strengthen and to supplement this work by the appointment of a health visitor who has the statutory right to visit the homes of those mothers who do not wish to avail themselves of existing care; for we must remember that it is invariably the conscientious and careful mothers who attend infant consultations, and that the voluntary organisations have no means of getting into touch with the careless or drunken mother, or of making her care for the children she may neglect. Unfortunately, action is still optional, though strongly recommended; and there is no doubt that neglect on the part of recalcitrant councils will in time cause the passing of an Act making the provisions for the care of mothers and infants compulsory.

To my mind, the most admirable feature of local government in England is its voluntary character and the sense of social obligation which induces citizens to give their time and their energies without remuneration, in the service of the State; and it is this sense of social obligation, together with an innate rectitude and a knowledge and sympathy with the needs of the locality, which has been the strength of decentralised government in England. Now that these local needs are passing into a new province, in which the man borough councillor is perhaps not quite so much at home as the woman citizen, *will it not necessarily create* a neglect of certain interests unless the informed and sympathetic view is represented by the presence of women on the councils?

We have often been told that local government is housekeeping on an extensive—I almost said expensive—scale. Perhaps the housekeeping could be done just as adequately, and less expensively, if women were allowed a greater part in it. There is, I think, no doubt that such questions as a pure milk supply at prices which would enable a mother to give her children an adequate amount, would have received the attention of local governing bodies if women had been better represented on these bodies.

More especially since the war, the need for a higher standard of public health, the protection against, and cure of, certain hereditary and acquired diseases which materially lower the birth rate and cause premature death and disease amongst the children that are born, has caused the Government to issue a recommendation for free treatment centres to be established under the administration of the Local Government Board. The need for public education on this question on the lines recommended in the Report of the Royal Commission cannot be too strongly recommended, and should be the means of preventing hasty and ill-considered action on the part of enthusiastic, but, perhaps, not altogether well advised, reformers.

There is, however, one measure to which we should give wholehearted support, both as ratepayers and as humanitarians, and that is the immediate establishment of centres for the cure of these diseases, preferably in connection with the general hospitals, so that no invidious distinctions will be made in the treatment of these patients.

The Local Government Board has undertaken to pay 75 per cent. of the cost from Imperial funds, so that only 25 per cent. will fall on local rates, and when we consider the urgent importance of the question from a national point of view we cannot hesitate to follow the lead given by the Government.

The provision of adequate care for child life, and the removal of the causes of infant mortality, are rendered imperative by the fact that 76 per cent. of the present infant mortality is wholly preventable and could be largely decreased by the provision of ante-natal care and the feeding of necessitous, expectant mothers, which should be included in all infant welfare work.

These duties have devolved upon the Metropolitan Borough Councils during the last few years, and may surely claim to be of vital importance, since they affect the life and death of human beings more intimately and more adversely than the lighting of streets, the making of roads, or the provision of libraries and wash-houses, and they make a very special appeal to women and invite their direct representation. Open spaces and playgrounds are also essential to the healthy development of child life, while the building and planning of homes for the people demand the practical and critical supervision of the potential housewife.

To any unbiassed person, I believe that even from this incomplete survey of the duties of local governing bodies it will become evident that, considering the number of questions affecting the welfare of women and children with which they deal, both sexes should be fairly represented on these councils.

In London alone we have twenty-eight distinct and separate towns in which a population of four and a-half millions is living, and growing, and dying. It is the borough councils which, to a large extent, are responsible for the safety, comfort, health, and general welfare of this huge population. Yet there are only twenty-two women on the Metropolitan Borough Councils out of a total of 1,380 members. There are five women on the London County Council, in spite of the fact that the education and public health of the metropolis are largely under the administration of the London County Council.

The only local governing body where women have been really welcomed by men is the Metropolitan Board of Guardians; there are about 137 women serving on these bodies in London, and the reason for their presence here is more easily understood after perusing a list of their arduous duties.

Now I want you to bear in mind that the census shows a

return of approximately 2,126,000 men and of 2,395,000 women and 800,000 children under ten, for London. Is it advisable to exclude these women, representing as they do the interests of three-fifths of the community, from the responsibilities of self-government, more especially at a time when they have so loyally responded to the call for national service under conditions over which they themselves have no control?

The need for a greater number of women on local governing bodies existed before the war—it has grown during the war, and it will be more imperative in the period of reconstruction after the war.

It is essential, therefore, that we should have a definite organisation for the purpose of bringing forward women candidates and for getting them elected. We can only hope to achieve this by co-ordinating and unifying the woman's vote, since it is our interests we desire them to promote.

Women have not sufficiently used their municipal vote in the past. We must realise the importance of using power we already possess if we mean to accomplish reforms in the future. Existing party organisations have often ignored the woman voter, she is neither sought out nor canvassed, and as her personal needs never figure very prominently in either party's programme, she often remains uninterested and aloof.

The Women's Municipal Party has been formed to organise the woman voter, to awaken her to her interests in local government, to induce her to use her vote, to form a programme stating her needs and views, and to elect candidates to fight for those needs and to represent those views—above all, to stimulate woman's personal sense of citizenship.

We can do very little without the support of women. There is, I think, every reason to hope that in the future the Women's Municipal Party will be able to secure the return of women candidates both for the borough council and for the London County Council, if women voters will make a point of registering their votes in favour of women candidates.

COMBATING VENEREAL DISEASE.

The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene is holding a public meeting on Friday, March 30th, in the Caxton Hall, at 4 p.m., to consider certain medical proposals that are being put forward for the prevention of venereal disease, which the Association considers may have the effect of lowering the moral standard and lessening the sense of personal responsibility.

A WOMAN PREACHER AT THE CITY TEMPLE.

A sermon was preached by Miss Maude Royden at the City Temple last Sunday to a large congregation, including as many men as women, who listened to her with close attention. Miss Royden spoke of the importance of spiritual values and the need for the recognition of the supernatural forces in the government of the world. It is nearly twenty years since Mrs. Booth, of the Salvation Army, addressed a congregation at the City Temple, that being the first occasion on which a woman preached there.

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Life at an Outpost Dressing Station.

The Outpost Dressing Station, established by the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals last December, at Dobroveni, is fulfilling a great want in the Serbian Army—that of light, mobile surgical units with a transport column attached.

By the time the Unit arrived, three tents had been erected for patients, one for the two doctors, one for Sisters, and another for orderlies; also a small administration tent which had to be used as a mess tent; but the discomfort of seating ten people where there was only room for five or six, decided the Unit to build a mess tent. The possession of a small tarpaulin made this possible, and the country for miles around was scoured for empty petrol tins; these filled with earth made the bricks, and with the earth dug out to a depth of 18 inches, a warmer and more commodious mess-room was thus made.

Conditions, however, were far from luxurious. An icy blast blew from the north over snow-clad mountains; there was very little wood, and no paraffin, and only two or three candles to lighten the darkness.

The kitchen was the next to receive attention. Its position was decided by the clay ovens which had been used some time before by the Serbs. Around these the Bulgar prisoners built walls of stone and earth; the hillsides provided the remains of cartridge cases, which were nailed to the "ration" wood, and over all was spread a tarpaulin which had been kindly lent to us. The battlefields, the site of which we now occupied, lent us many aids to furnishing. Daggers firmly wedged between the stones made pegs on the kitchen walls, and from these were suspended the soup ladle, toasting fork, or kitchen towel. They did equally well for hanging puttees or boots to dry. Our clothes line was stretched from the iron posts which a few weeks before had held the barbed-wire entanglements.

No Dressing Station can be kept up without stores, and some way had to be found of keeping these together under a water-tight cover. Wood being very scarce, and tarpaulin non-existent, Dr. Cooper therefore decided to have a "dug-out." So one was made about six feet deep, and, thanks to the kindness of certain troops, it was roofed in with galvanised iron sheets. A few precipitous steps lead down to this excellent magazine, which is always warm and dry.

To secure an adequate supply of water for the station has been one of the greatest difficulties. All the water for cooking, drinking, and operating-theatre purposes has to be carried from the village of Dobroveni, nearly a mile away. The water for washing is carried from the river, which, fortunately, is nearer. The Ford van, when it is available—which is not often—goes to the village or the river to carry the water-buckets, and so relieve the bolnichars. This van is in constant use for bringing in everything in the way of food. Our rations consist of meat, flour (one-third of half a kilo for each person—in plain English, about a tablespoonful each), a very little tea, very little sugar, rice or macaroni, and a little lard. Occasionally one-fifth of a gramme of onion is allowed! This works out at about one whole pickling onion or half a small one each. These rations are supplemented by potatoes, turnips, cabbages, tinned milk and fish. We have been much helped by the orderly in the kitchen, Miss Stephen, who has done most splendid work; always good-tempered and willing, and with a genius for making an excellent pudding out of next to nothing.

Wood is another problem in this district. All the trees round about the camp have been destroyed by shell-fire or already used as firewood. The donkeys have to go up each day into the mountains to bring it, and four donkey-loads are a day's rations. The arrival of these loads is somewhat uncertain, and when they do come they are very small. During the Christmas celebrations in the district none at all came for three days; but matters have improved since then.

For the chauffeurs there is a tremendous amount of work to be done over fearful roads, and places which are no roads at all but badly ploughed fields, full of shell-holes and half-submerged in water. It is the battle-ground of only a few weeks ago, and when the camp was first established, bombs were continually being dropped. The journeys are very arduous and most fatiguing, but they are always undertaken with readiness and cheerfulness.

Another means of conveyance—for which special permission is required—is a miniature railway, which runs quite near us, but passengers have been known to leave it and board an ambulance for speed.

At the Dressing Station just now there are six women drivers, four Serbs, one Englishman, who is also a mechanic, and a Serbian assistant; the cars consist of ten ambulances and one Ford van. They make three or four journeys each day—

between 8 a.m. and 12 noon, two journeys can be made—carrying in all nine or twelve patients to an evacuation hospital. The largest number of patients carried in one day is ninety, and it is estimated that we must be prepared to carry a great many more, so that the new ambulances are eagerly looked for.

Our cars travel a distance of about 80 kilometres a day, often up to the axle in sticky mud, so that it is often necessary to resort to pushing; but the road is now being repaired by prisoners under the direction of the Serbs. The Bulgar prisoner is a friendly soul, and looks quite pleased with his fate; the German is quite otherwise, for though well clothed and fed, he looks pallid, expressionless, and unhappy.

Great interest is shown in our women drivers, and everyone is most kind and helpful if there is need.

The chauffeurs are under the care of the Motor Transport Officer, Miss Bedford, who arranges the journeys, overlooks the garage, and obtains the necessary spare parts. This supplying of spare parts is by far the most difficult and trying part of the transport work, as there is a very limited quantity in Macedonia. The terrible roads render repairs and replacements constantly necessary.

The work among Refugees is most interesting. They number 85 families, representing between 400 and 500 people. Some of the families are very large—sixteen or eighteen—and quite a small child of five or six years will be sent to represent his large number of brothers and sisters. They present their ticket, on one side of which is a number, while the other gives the name of the family and the number of "souls." In return they receive linseed, which they make into soup, brown beans, or rice. This is carried away in the handkerchief or apron, while those of more frugal mind bring one of the many tins which are so plentifully sprinkled over this land. If any are so fortunate as to have made their escape with a few pots, they can have soup to carry away.

The women and children are, on the whole, healthy and happy-looking, in spite of their experiences, many of them pretty and attractive, and some of the women beautiful. Their dress of coarse cream-coloured cotton is heavily embroidered round the foot of the skirt to a depth of from 3 to 10 inches. The short wide sleeve is usually of the same design. The embroidery may also be in panels, squares, or diamonds, but all is of the same massive texture and bright rich colouring—very suggestive of the varied lichens one finds on the stones of the hillsides, and from which they probably make their dyes. The dress is worn open at the throat, in spite of the extreme cold, and though the thin and scanty scarf, or the sleeveless jacket, is drawn over the head in the biting wind, they do not seem to think of closing the dress at the throat.

As the advance into Monastir progresses, the Serbian Army will require hospitals that can be packed up at a few hours' notice, and yet have all the appliances necessary to modern surgery. The N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals are endeavouring to organise this Dressing Station at Dobroveni on these lines, leaving the main part of the Unit at the Base to tend the serious cases which require more treatment than can be given in a field hospital.

S. P. M.

The Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units in Russia.

Now that the reports of Russian freedom and of the reorganisation of Russia by the Zemstvos under the Provisional Government are filling all our thoughts, our readers will be interested to see the translation of a letter just received at Headquarters from the District Zemstvo of Chistopol, in the province of Kazan:—"At the 52nd meeting of the Chistopol District Zemstvo, on the report by the Office on the medical help rendered by the Union (N.U.W.S.S.), it was resolved that the warmest thanks of the Zemstvo meeting be given both to the Union and to the Great Britain to Poland Committee for coming to the help of the people in the Chistopol district in such a difficult time. The Office of the District Zemstvo therefore begs to inform the Union of this with kindest regards (lit. its friendly duty). Signed, President and Secretary." It will be remembered that we staffed two temporary hospitals in this district during the summer, and two more permanent ones at Stara Chelnoe and Chulpanova, the latter being still open under Dr. May. In Kazan, we are working under the Town Council, another of those democratic bodies to whom the local organisation is now entrusted, and in Galicia we are under the South-Western Zemstvo, with its headquarters at Kieff.

These Zemstvos—district or county councils—are no new institutions, as they came into being at the time of the liberation of the serfs under a Liberal Tsar. But no sooner were they established, than the central government became jealous of them, and tried to lessen their power and importance. For nearly seventy years it has been a life and death struggle between the bureaucratic Governmental machine and the democratic local organisations, and only in times of great crises of famine or war have the Zemstvos been allowed to show what the people of Russia could do. But only during this last terrible war, when the needs were so vast and the Governmental machine so totally unable to cope with them, have the Zemstvos been allowed to organise themselves into a union of public-spirited and self-governing bodies, and to assume work that was really State work. They have accomplished miracles of organisation in their hospitals, hospital trains, and food-providing units; in their sanitary work, and their care of the refugees; in their factories, and in their road and bridge construction, and in a thousand and one activities. Their work had acquired all the significance of State work, and was carried on by thousands of public-spirited men and women, accomplishing by national strength what the Government was unable to do. Yet, although the Governmental machine was inadequate, and had to rely on the Union of the Zemstvos for the conduct of the war, it was still constantly thwarting them, the Council of Ministers refusing their suggestions and opposing their general schemes. Now everything will be changed, as the President of the Union of Zemstvos, Prince George Lvov, a most public-spirited, democratic, and able statesman, is at the head of the Provisional Government, and is already putting matters of food supply, etc., into the hands of the Presidents of Zemstvos and Town Mayors, in place of the provincial Governors. Only now will the Russian people be able to show what they are and what they can do. We are proud to have co-operated with them during the past year, and we hope that our generous donors will enable us to continue this co-operation in Galicia for many months longer. We must have another £500 if Dr. King Atkinson is to be able to carry back to the South-Western Zemstvos, as she hopes to do, a message of sympathy and a promise of that trained help which the women of England can give to the people of Russia. Will our readers send us at once a donation, small or large, to show their belief in the new Government, and to prove their practical support of its aims and ideals?

Alys Russell.

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the "Common Cause" Hut, now being erected in one of the principal munition areas, is to be of much greater dimensions than originally intended. It will be capable of seating hundreds of girls and will be complete in every detail, in fact, it is to be

the biggest and best equipped HUT that the Y.W.C.A. have ever erected

It will contain:—
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CLOAK ROOM
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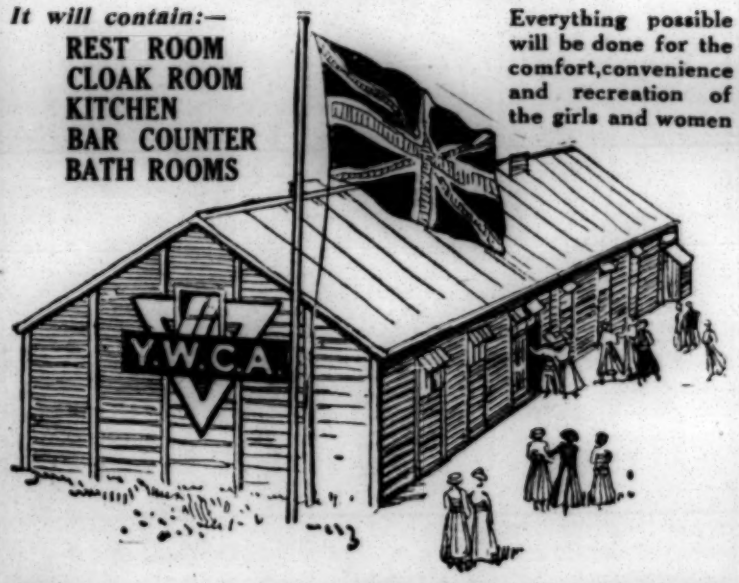
Everything possible will be done for the comfort, convenience and recreation of the girls and women



There are more Women and Girl Workers in this district than in any other Munition area in the Kingdom

and the accommodation required will necessitate the cost of the hut being increased to £1,000, leaving a further £300 to be raised. We are sure the readers of "The Common Cause" will see the necessity for thus making this further appeal to their generosity.

Will you who have not already given towards The

"COMMON CAUSE" HUT

kindly give something NOW?

Your reward will be the unbounded gratitude of the women and girls who will use the hut, and the knowledge that you are helping in a great national cause.

This "named" hut, now in actual process of being built, in a district where it is urgently required, will be a great and striking tribute, to the workers, of the love and practical sympathy of the readers of this journal.

CHEQUES, POSTAL ORDERS, &c., should be addressed to the editor of "The Common Cause," 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster.

To the Editor of "The Common Cause,"
14, Great Smith St., Westminster, S.W.

Dear Madam,
I enclose my "bit" towards the equipment of "The Common Cause" Hut, viz.: _____ *(amount)*

Signed _____

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All Business Communications *to be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause, 14, Great Smith St., Westminster, S.W., and all* Advertisements *must reach the Office not later than first post on Wednesday. Advertisement representatives, S. R. Le Mare and Miss Frances L. Fuller (West End).*

The Devotion of Women.

The stream of appeals for women's national service continues to gather in force and volume. The necessity for training and preparation which the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies has never ceased to urge since the outbreak of war, has been at length perceived by the Government; and though twenty months of precious time have been lost, a beginning is now being made on what promises to be a more adequate scale. It is satisfactory, at this stage, to note that all the women who foresaw the coming need, and in spite of discouragement and repeated snubs from the authorities set about preparing themselves to meet it, are now snapped up as fast as they present themselves—the demand is greater than the supply. Voluntary effort has once more come to the rescue of official slackness and obscurantism. For the pre-occupation of the official mind for the past two years has apparently been not to admit women at all to any department; or if compelled to do this, to "keep women in their place"—that is, to make it impossible for any woman to rise above the rank and file, which must forever take orders from male authority.

"The great shortage of brains," as a second-hand bookseller feelingly remarked to the writer, "makes things very difficult for us just now." The words seem true of other worlds than that of the Charing Cross Road. The great drain of brain-power, which has caused a great many vitally important decisions to be made by depleted ranks of public servants, many of whom are now physically and mentally incapable of changing the mental habits of a life-time, and of adapting themselves to a revolutionised world, is in itself a national misfortune. It is doubly and trebly a misfortune, when ancient prejudice, being put in power, devotes its strength to holding the fort against all accessions of fresh mental vigour, because "the women" must be kept out of responsible positions. The trade unionism of the "intellectuals" is often more bitter and exclusive than the trade unionism of the manual workers; and even more blind to national interests as against sex-monopoly.

It is impossible for any thinking woman-citizen not to recollect this under-tow, even with Cabinet Ministers' eloquence still ringing in their ears. For the appeal is always for women to fill the places of *the rank and file*, and to be content to stay there until they are turned out "at the end of the war," without any visible means of support; and (if we are to take dismal anti-feminist prophecies seriously) with health permanently undermined as a result of their toil outside "the home"! Women are asked at the Albert Hall to sacrifice themselves; to take up manual labour in the spirit in which the soldier has taken up the hard, monotonous, ill-paid, dangerous work in the trenches; and the call "to endure hardness" is certain of response, for "all hearts respond to that iron string." And yet—even the soldier in the trenches has, according to the fine old saying, "a marshal's bâton in his haversack." The woman-worker has no such prospect—the higher commands are not to be open to her.

Another appeal to the noblest patriotism, the selfless devotion of women of the best type, was made lately by the Minister of Education in an address to women students at Oxford. For the highly-educated woman, Mr. Fisher sketched out a programme of self-forgetting labour for the good of the future generations, which was certain to find a generous response in the hearts of his hearers. Women will be found now, as in the past, ready to devote themselves to drudgery for a great ideal, to take up an "ill-paid profession" which offers few honours and rewards to the men who pursue it; to women, few or none, with a yet more insecure tenure; for a

head-master, or a routine-ridden committee, will often only engage a woman-teacher, however competent she may be, so long as there is no male teacher to be had.

"Women must sacrifice themselves," says Mr. Prothero, adding genially that women usually like it. There is, after all, some truth in the observation. The spirit of sacrifice is transforming our country. The desire to spend ourselves, "all that we have and are," for a great cause has leavened all our lives. But are we being called upon to sacrifice ourselves or to be sacrificed? For precisely in this lies all the difference. For scores of generations since the days of Iphigenia, public opinion has warmly approved the sacrifice of women, especially in time of war, and their readiness for sacrifice is accepted, as Mr. Prothero hinted, as a matter of course. It is supposed to "come easy" to them, and accordingly held of little value. And even through the ringing trumpet-call for "equal sacrifice," sounds the steam-hooter's shrill insistent cry for "cheap labour."

Mr. Fisher, as Minister of Education, holds out to us nothing less than an apostolate; a prospect of laying broad and fair the foundations of a new Jerusalem (subject, of course, to the approval of the pundits and permanent officials of the Education Department, and the building regulations by them laid down for our guidance). Mr. Prothero, as Minister of Agriculture, shows that it is absolutely necessary that we should take up the burden of food-production. Both soul and body must be strong to stand in the evil day, and having done all to stand. But Women's Suffragists know that much more must be asked of us than spade-work in either field. Neither great Imperial problems, nor the fundamental question of food-supply, can be adequately solved by an aristocracy of male voters, nor by armies of women-workers controlled by officials who are now supposed to have the administration almost entirely in their hands. No national regeneration is possible upon such terms; and nothing less than the full power of the nation will avail for the work. •

A Fallacy Dispelled by the War.

What the new world after the war is going to be like, no one knows, none can say. It depends upon so many unknown factors. But one thing seems tolerably certain: it cannot be the old world back again. Some things, some views, have gone for ever, shattered by the iron logic of events; some illusions, long maintained by authority and bolstered up by prejudice, which argument could not dispel, have disappeared before an array of facts that speak to the dullest imagination. Among these is surely the view of the disparate functions of men and women, expressed in its extreme form in the line:—

"For men must work and women must weep."

On this view, in one or other of its many variations, the whole argument against the recognition of women as citizens is fundamentally based. Man is the active member: he goes out, wrestles with circumstances, works, decides; woman stays at home, a passive spectator, waiting, watching, and, upon occasion, weeping. For a very long time this picture has been a remote caricature of the facts; but it has continued nevertheless to hang on our walls and to dominate much of our thinking. But the war has blown its last fragments into dust.

Women must weep. Yes; but their weeping has not interfered with their working. If all the women of this country now at work were to go on strike to-morrow, the war could not last many days. By an odd paradox, the very test which used to be supposed to be the supreme and ultimate demonstration of their difference from men and consequent incapacity as citizens, has proved them as necessary to the nation as their brothers. Women cannot fight; therefore they must not vote. How often that used to be reiterated. But fighting, modern fighting, is less and less an affair of muscles: munitions are as vital as men to the commander of to-day, and the woman who makes shells is as necessary to the defence of her country as the man who fires them or is blown to pieces by them. And not the woman who makes shells only. The woman who toils on the land, who heaves coal sacks, who manufactures electric apparatus, who drives a 'bus, who tells in a bank or adds up columns in an export firm—we can do without none of them. The old fallacy by which one function was regarded as essential and the rest as nought, has been blown sky high. Modern war, like modern life in any aspect, is an affair of co-operation; and who can now say that women play no part in the big common effort which alone can carry us through to victory and make our victory worth while?

In so far as death is the pain of those who have to live on in a world darkened and reduced, even more than of those who lay down their lives to find them, women are bearing the heaviest burden of the suffering of the war, and feel most keenly the hideousness of its tragedy and the necessity of securing that it shall never happen again. Europe needs their will to peace to strengthen and confirm that of the men on whose voices it has hitherto relied for expression. For if the war has taught us anything, it is that the peace for which we are striving and suffering must be something more securely based than was the armed truce under which Europe moved uneasily before 1914. The only secure basis is the intelligent determination of the peoples not to have war. And that determination can be effective only in proportion as more and more individuals realise their responsibility and their power, refuse to be ignorant, insist on understanding where they are. To this end the vote may be a slow and clumsy instrument, but it is the only one. At present, far from every other evil, there is in each of the belligerent countries a body of opinion which has no recognised expression, and it is therefore more ignorant, less responsible, than it need be. It is not necessary to argue that all women are conscientiously, intelligently pacific. There are many who are not. But in most women, because it is their special function to guard life, there is a deep instinctive sense which revolts against war. This instinct of the value of life is one of the guarantees of human progress. The world, for its own peace, must neglect no means of fortifying it by recognition—*i.e.*, by the grant of powers of legal expression.

At the outbreak of war, all the women's organisations devoted to demanding the enfranchisement of their sex, spontaneously agreed to suspend their activities in this direction, and turned them to work of a hundred kinds directed to assisting the effective prosecution of the war. From that time until a few months ago this patriotic decision was adhered to with entire loyalty. This, and any candid review of the work done, ought to go far to convince those who opposed Women's Suffrage on the ground that it would increase the unfit electorate. In any case, this argument implies the admission to the vote, not of men *qua* men, but only of such persons, male or female, as have passed some kind of qualifying test. The democrat who believes in government by the will of the governed, and in the educative effect of the exercise of responsibility, is involved in a hopeless tangle of fallacy if he tries to exclude women as such. The war has made this fallacy so plain that we cannot believe it will be allowed to continue.

Mary Agnes Hamilton.

IRISH WOMEN DEMAND ENFRANCHISEMENT.

A combined meeting of Irish Suffragists was held in the Mansion House, Dublin, on March 14th, to demand inclusion of the enfranchisement of Irishwomen in any settlement of the Irish question, and the extension to Ireland of the majority resolution of the Electoral Reform Conference, approving the principle of enfranchisement. The following societies co-operated:—Irishwomen's Suffrage Federation, including the Irishwomen's Reform League and the Munster Women's Franchise League; the Catholic League for Woman Suffrage; the Church League for Woman Suffrage; the Irishwomen's Franchise League; the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association; and the Belfast Suffrage Society.

The chair was taken by Mrs. Stephen Gwynn, who emphasised the fact that, however those taking part in the meeting might differ on other points, they were united in the conviction that immediate enfranchisement was of the most vital importance. An Australian member of the audience contrasted the poverty of Dublin with Australian conditions, and expressed his astonishment on finding the stale old arguments that had been used in Australia and proved false produced here as something fresh and effective. The resolution was carried unanimously. The meeting was well attended, and was evidence of the real strength of the Suffrage movement in Dublin, in spite of the distractions of party politics and of the war.

At a Committee meeting of the Irishwomen's Suffrage and Local Government Association, held in Dublin on February 22nd, the following resolution was passed:—

"That this Committee would strongly urge upon the Government the need to include Ireland in any measure granting the franchise to the women of England and Scotland."

This resolution has been sent to the Lord-Lieutenant, the Chief Secretary, and the Irish members of Parliament.

The following resolution was proposed by Lady Dockrell, U.P.C., seconded by Mrs. Solomons, and passed in silence, the Committee standing :—

"That we, the members of the Committee of the Irishwomen's Suffrage and Local Government Association, wish to place on record our sense of the irreparable loss we have sustained by the death of Mr. T. J. Haslam, and desire to convey to Mrs. Haslam our heartfelt sympathy.

"We wish to express our deep feeling of appreciation for his long and unwearied efforts on behalf of Women's Suffrage, and his unselfish devotion to the service of humanity."

IN MEMORIAM : MRS. HARLEY.

A Memorial Service for Mrs. Harley, killed at Monastir on March 7th, will take place at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, on March 28th, 12.30 p.m.

A Memorial Service has also been organised by our Shrewsbury Society, and will be held at All Saints' Church on Sunday, March 25th, at 3.30. The collection will be devoted to the fund for the Relief of the People at Monastir, for which Mrs. Harley sent an appeal on Feb. 7th, before she went up to that town. For this fund the Suffrage Society has already sent £20, and they are dispatching another instalment soon to Miss Edith Harley, to whom the members have sent a message of sympathy.

WOMEN TAXI-CAB DRIVERS.

The threatened strike of the Licensed Vehicle Drivers over the granting of licenses to women to drive taxi-cabs in the London area raises a great many interesting points, which we hope to set out in an article next week.

As we go to press negotiations are proceeding between the Home Office, the Ministry of Labour, and the Union concerned. The course of the negotiations, the considerations that influence them, afford another striking illustration of the need for the enfranchisement of women.

The Home Secretary issued an order that licenses might be granted to women at the beginning of February. Early in March, the Licensed Vehicle Workers' Union voted for an immediate strike upon the appearance of the first woman taxi-driver in the streets. On February 15th, strike meetings were definitely summoned, and during the past week negotiations and questions in Parliament have been proceeding, and the strike is temporarily suspended. Mr. Hodge, Minister of Labour, has undertaken to recommend to the Home Office that the granting of licenses shall be regarded as a temporary war measure only, and Sir George Cave has announced that he has no intention of extending the licenses to 'bus and tram driving; but, nevertheless, the men remain unsatisfied, although their strike meetings have for the moment been cancelled.

In all this controversy, what of the women? There are scores of capable women drivers, whose services the country is losing. In provincial towns they are doing the work with complete success. In London they drive almost every other kind of vehicle, including motor lorries and municipal ambulances. What is it that is causing the trouble?

DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed, and should be sent to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, S.W.H., Red House, Greenock. Cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Subscriptions for the London Units to be sent to the Right Hon. Viscountess Cowdray, or the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves, Hon. Treasurers, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to March 8th, 1917	183,770	1	5
Further donations to March 15th, 1917 :—			
*Miss M. Hay	10	0	
Part profits, *Women's Volunteer Reserve Magazine*, 1916-17, per Mrs. Sutherland, Hon. Major, W.V.R., late Editor of the *W.V.R. Magazine*	5	0	0
Miss Nellie Bowers, per Miss J. M. Aspinwall, Hon. Treas., Dunbar W.S.S.	8	0	
*Per Jas. M. Wood, Esq., being entire proceeds realised at concert held in the Kidston Hall, Kilmacolm...	26	2	0
A Friend	1	0	0
*Mr. George Lauder, per Mrs. Lauder (Serbia)	50	0	0
*St. George's School for Girls, per Miss Stevenson, Edinburgh, additional from Sir E. Parrott's lecture	2	9	
*Mrs. Muir, Hon. Treas., Troon W.S.S....	10	10	0
*Per D. Drummond Fraser, Esq., Hon. Treas., Manchester and District Fed. Field Hospital (Corsica)	400	0	0
*Per Miss Low, per Miss Moir : Employees Messrs. Jones & Campbell (£3 10s.), Messrs. Ross (£5), Employees Caledonian Railway (Goods) (£1 10s. 6d.)	10	0	6
*Per Miss Bury : Torry Co-op. Women's Guild (10s.), Collected by Williamina Smith from Employees Messrs. Fiddes & Co. (10s. 5d.) ...	1	0	5
*Staff of Bruntsfield Public School, Edinburgh, per T. J. Robertson, Esq., Headmaster (Serbia)	15	0	
*Per Mrs. Robertson : *Employees Messrs. Dick Kerr & Co., Ltd. (£3 1s. 9d.), *Employees Messrs. Portland Forge Co., Ltd. (17th con.) (£1 15s.), *Employees Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£3 5s. 7d.), "Auld Killie" (£2)	10	2	4
*Staff and Pupils of the Godolphin School, Salisbury, per Miss V. F. Parson, Sec., per Miss Douglas	2	3	6
*Employees Messrs. Wm. Fulton & Sons, Ltd., per Jas. Guy, Es., per Miss Etta Shankland	10	0	0
*Per Mrs. Shaw McLaren, per Appeals Com., per the Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Fed., being result of three meetings during tour in the South : Salisbury (£17 10s. 6d.), Worthing (£8), Farnham (£2 4s. 1d.)	27	14	7
*Sunderland W.S.S., per Mrs. Mundella, Hon. Treas., collected at Bedford Road (monthly) : Mrs. Common (10s.), Miss J. Common (10s.), Mrs. Eliot Common (10s.), Mrs. Walford Common (5s.), Mrs. Garcia (2s. 6d.), A Friend (1s.), Mrs. L. (6d.), Household Economies at 4, Bedford Road (8s.)—(£2 7s.). S. G. (5s.). Per Mrs. Mundella : Mrs. Eyres (5s.), Miss Hedley (2s. 6d.), Nurse Hinch (1s.), Miss Panton (2s. 6d.), Mrs. A Ritson (2s.), Mrs. Oliver (3s.), Mrs. Patrick (5s.), Mrs. A. Johnson (10s.), S. H. C. (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Mundella (2s.), Miss Farquhar (5s.), Form 6, Bede Collegiate Girls' School (2s. 6d.), Workmen, Foremen, and Officials Messrs. McColl & Pollock, Ltd (£5), Mrs. Dalrymple Smith (6s. 8d.) ...	7	19	8
*Alex. Cupples, Esq.	2	0	0
*Birkenhead & District W.S.S., per Miss M. E. Dalby, Hon. Treas., for "Birkenhead" bed at Royaumont	3	11	0
Isobel and Nellie Robertson, from sale of tapers	1	0	0
*Per R. E. Davis, Esq., per Appeals Com., proceeds of Mrs. Shaw McLaren's lecture (February)	32	0	0
Lady Cowan	10	0	0
Miss Katherine H. Greg ...	2	0	0
*Per Miss Isabelle Kerr, Local Sec., S.W.H. : Waste Material Scheme, Jumble Sale held at Cartsburn Hall	30	4	7½
*Masters and Boys of Glasgow Academy, per E. Temple, Esq., Headmaster	2	2	9
Mrs. Duncan (Ambulance Fund) (Serbia)	1	1	0
*Per Mrs. Craster, Mistress, Wellington Farm School ...	2	0	0
*Per the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves, Hon. Treas., London Units : Six months' upkeep of beds in London Wards (Royaumont)	800	0	0
Committee and Members of St. Andrew's Society of Hankow, also Scottish Ladies of Hankow, per John McCaig, Esq., Hon. Sec. and Treas.	97	0	0
Miss Betty B. Kennedy	5	0	0
Proceeds of Lecture, Trinity U.F. Church Guild, per William Wood, Esq.	2	0	0
Per Miss Jean Loraine Smith, Hon. Treas. (Women's Com.), Council Offices, Edinburgh University, to name a "Student's" bed (Royaumont)	50	0	0
Montrose W.S.S., per Miss Marion Hossack, Sec.	2	0	0
	£185,375	9	6½

* Denotes further donations.

Further List of Beds Named.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Student's" (Royaumont) (1st instalment) (1 year)	Per Miss Jean Loraine Smith, Hon. Treas., Women's Com., Council Offices, Edinburgh University.
"London Ward" (33 beds) (Royaumont) (further 6 months)	Per the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves, Hon. Treas., 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

London Units, February, 1917.

(66, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1.)

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	26,530	9	10
Allfrey, Miss O. M.	10	0	0
American and Canadian collection, per Miss K. Burke	1,250	0	0
Anon.	5	0	0
Anon., per Miss Curwen ...	1	0	0
Besant, Major W. H.	1	0	0
Blakeley, Miss		5	0
Bridport W.S.S. and Friends, per Mrs. Suttiss	7	14	0
Brighton and Hove W.S.S., per Miss Curwen	6	0	0
Brown, Mrs.	5	5	0
Chesney, Lady	5	0	0
Collecting Card No. 1, per Miss Hamilton		10	0
Collecting Card No. 3, per Miss H. M. Blair		10	0
Collecting Card No. 4, per Miss E. E. Morrison		14	0
Collecting Card No. 7, per Mrs. Baxendale		10	0
Collecting Card No. 8, per Mrs. Watson	1	2	0
Collecting Card No. 15, per Mrs. Beadle		11	0
Collecting Card No. 29, per Mrs. Shutt		1	6
Collecting Card No. 30, per Mrs. West		3	4
Davidson, Dr. John		10	6
Dundee W.S.S., per Miss Macintyre	127	16	0
Downes-Webber, W., Esq. ...	2	0	0
Flügel, Mrs. C.	5	0	0
Four Schoolgirls—The Misses Smith (2), Robson, and Kerr by Sale of Work...	2	2	0
Glen Bervie Rubber Co.... ...	21	0	0
Heywood, Mrs.	1	1	0
Hinde, Mrs. (monthly don.) ...		5	0
Hinks, Miss Mildred A.... ...	5	0	0
Holt, Mrs. E. R.	1	0	0
Hughes, Miss	1	1	0
Humber, Miss Annette		5	0
Ilford Presbyterian Church Literary Society, per Miss Curwen	3	0	0
Lorimer, Mrs.		10	0
Loveday, Mrs.		10	0
Macgregor, Per Miss		10	6
McMillan, Mrs. E.	1	1	0
Macpherson, Per Mrs.	7	7	0
Marshall, Per Miss C. M., towards the "Madge Neill Fraser" Ambulance	86	10	6
M. B. A., per Miss Newcombe		10	0
Middleton, Mrs.	5	0	0
Roggen & Co., Messrs. F. W. ...	20	0	0
Samuel, S., Esq., M.P.	1	0	0
Steel, James, Esq., "Sheena's Cot"	25	0	0
"The Ocean Staff"	2	13	0
Watkins, Per Miss...		10	6
Watkins, Mrs. W.	1	1	0
Wheatsheaf Meeting Collection, per Miss Curwen ...	1	15	0
Wilson, Miss C. B....	6	0	0
Wimbledon W.S.S. and Friends, per Miss Parton...	70	3	6
Women's Club, S. Norwood, per Mrs. Gardiner		7	6
Wood, Miss A. G.	3	0	0
	£28,229	5	8

Donations to "Serbian Prisoners of War Fund."

At the request of the Serbian Legation a special appeal for Serbian prisoners of war has been made under the auspices of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital for Foreign Service.

Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, has much pleasure in acknowledging further list of donations, and trusts that this appeal will meet with a very hearty response from the public and friends interested—the condition of these prisoners is extremely pitiable, their friends are homeless and unable to help them.

THIRD LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to March 8th, 1917	92	7	5
Further donations received to March 15th :—			
The Misses Dickie...	1	0	0
Miss M. J. Scott, per Miss J. D. Catton	1	0	0
The Misses Smith		2	6
Miss Florence M. Robertson ...		14	0
Miss Purves	1	1	0
Miss J. C. Thomson	1	0	0
	£97	4	11

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
Hon. Secretaries: MISS VIOLET EUSTACE. MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary)
Hon. Treasurer: MRS. AUERBACH.
Secretary: MISS HELEN WRIGHT.
Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4673 Vic.

Miss Helen M. K. Wright, as announced at the Council Meeting, has resigned the post of Secretary, and has now left the office. Miss Edith Stopford has been appointed in her place, and will commence her duties after Easter.

Copies of the "Analysis of Voting on Women's Suffrage Bills in the House of Commons from 1908-1912," may now be obtained from the Literature Department. Price 2d.; postage ½d.

1917 Franchise Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	1,037	11	8
Miss A. A. Leith	1	0	0
Miss Caroline Cadbury	1	0	0
Mrs. Burr		10	0
Miss Emily Davies	5	0	0
Miss Eleanor Garrett	2	0	0
Sunderland W.S.S....	14	0	0
Mrs. M. K. Richardson	2	2	0
Mrs. Saint	5	0	0
Mrs. Brunner...	2	2	0
Mrs. Freer		5	0
Mrs. G. A. Burt	1	1	0
Mrs. Reepmaker		5	0
Miss F. M. P. Mole...		2	6
Anonymous		10	0
Miss Edith Eskrigge	5	0	0
Mrs. Burnham	1	0	0
Mrs. Fawcett (2nd instalment)	25	0	0
Miss A. C. Ince		2	6
Miss E. M. Congdon		5	0
Miss M. Gillett	1	0	0
Mrs. Haslam	10	0	0
Miss Geraldine M. Clayton ...		5	0
Miss Edith Giles	1	0	0
Miss Collin	3	0	0
Miss F. Andress		5	0
Mrs. Henry J. Wilson	5	0	0
Miss J. M. Beath	1	1	0
Mrs. Arbuthnot		10	6
Miss M. L. Bruce	2	10	0
Miss Evelyn C. Sparrow... ...	1	0	0
Miss L. J. Chudleigh and Miss E. L. Johns...	1	0	0
	£1,130	8	2

IMPORTANT.

CHEQUES should be crossed.

POSTAL ORDERS should be crossed, and filled in N.U.W.S.S.

TREASURY NOTES should be treated like coins, and *always* registered. If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the SECRETARY, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

Please address letters containing money either to the SECRETARY, or to Mrs. Auerbach or Miss Sterling by name, *not* to the Treasurer.

The Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units.

FIFTY-SIXTH LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	11,169	1	5
Leeds Girls' High School (Galician Unit)	9	14	0
Anonymous		10	0
Mrs. Little	1	0	0
Meeting at the Philosophical Hall, Leeds, per Dr. Atkinson	29	1	0
Miss Margaret S. Ker	1	1	0
Redhill and Reigate W.S.S., Mrs. Earle's Drawing-room Meeting	18	10	0
Mrs. Russell, Speaking Fee ...	1	1	0
Miss Mabel Holland	12	10	0
Hunstanton W.S.S., part collection at annual meeting ...	3	0	0
Collection at Mrs. Marshall's Drawing-room Meeting ...	22	2	0
M. H. H.	1	0	0
	£11,268	10	5

Further donations should be sent to the Countess of Selborne, or to Miss Stirling, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W. Cheques and Postal Orders to be crossed "London County & Westminster Bank, Victoria Branch."

"The Common Cause" Hut.

We are still nearly £300 short of the **£1,000** necessary for the building and full equipment of THE COMMON CAUSE Hut for women munition workers at Coventry. Will not our readers subscribe the remainder next week, and enable a start to be made at once?

The need is so very urgent, and the position chosen for our hut is just in the part of the town where it will be most useful. Thousands of women and girls flock into this district every night for amusement, and have nowhere to go but the cinemas and the streets, which are far darker and more dismal than those of London. The Hut, which is to be the biggest and best the Y.W.C.A. have ever built, will be a great boon to them. We appeal to all our readers who are prevented from active forms of national service to help to make the lot of the munition worker less hard.

The following sums are gratefully acknowledged:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	683	11	5
Miss Edith Giles		2	6
Miss Collin	2	0	0
Miss Stirling	1	0	0
Miss Mabel Holland	12	10	0
Miss W. H.		2	6
M. H. H.	1	0	0
Miss H. Pagan		5	0
Dr. Sophia See Kings	1	1	0
M. L. B.		2	0
Mrs. B. L. Reilly		5	0
Mrs. Howard Glover	1	10	0
Lapworth Branch of Solihull and District W.S.S.	5	5	0
	£708	14	5

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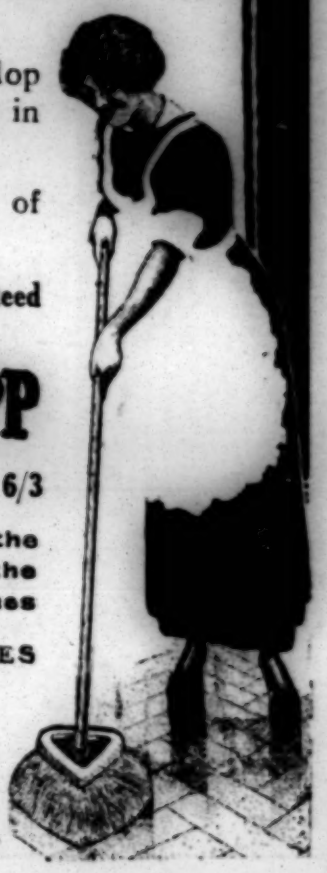

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Nurses' Sister Dora Caps, 8½d, 10½d, 1/- each.
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N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL LONDON UNITS.

Subscribers to the London Units will share in the satisfaction of the Committee at receiving news that the large consignment of goods sent out in charge of Miss Henderson at the beginning of February has arrived safely in Sweden. No small labour was involved in its despatch. The bales and cases, numbering 136, which have been valued at £1,540, contain medical stores, motor accessories, clothes, and such food-stuffs as are required to supplement the rations granted by the Serbian Army. Special permits had to be obtained for the export of different items, and also special facilities for transport, owing to the present condition of shipping. Half the bales and cases were packed in the offices of the London Units by Miss Hoc and her voluntary helpers.

The difficulties of obtaining all the goods required seemed almost insuperable at one time, and were only overcome by the very special consideration given to the orders by the managers of firms and officials—a mark of public appreciation of the work done by the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals, which was gratifying in every way.

The Madge Neil Fraser Memorial of £300 for an ambulance car has now been completed. The money was partly contributed through the "Golfers' Fund" (Hon. Sec., Mrs. Marshall), and the remainder was collected by means of the Walsall and District Allies' Aid Committee. The London Committee feel specially indebted to the Mayor of Walsall for his interest and energy. The Memorial Fund has been earmarked for an ambulance in Russia, and instructions have been sent to the London Units to name one of the cars "The Madge Neil Fraser Ambulance Car."

The London Units have received £25 for Sheena's Cot, per Jas. Steel, Esq. Also £25 for the Seaton Bed, per the British School of Archæology in Egypt. Also £25 from the Norland Place School Old Girls' Association, to maintain a bed in Dr. Elsie Inglis' Unit.

DEPUTATION TO MR. MALLABY DEELEY, M.P.

A deputation organised by the Harrow, Hendon, and Willesden Branches of the London Union of Suffrage Societies waited upon Mr. Mallaby Deeley, M.P., at the House of Commons on March 12th to place before him the claims of women to be included in any Government Electoral Reform Bill.

The Bishop of Willesden, in introducing the deputation, said that many residents in the constituency felt that the question of Women's Suffrage must be faced, in view of the proposals of the Speaker's Conference on Electoral Reform, and hoped Mr. Mallaby Deeley would give them his support. The speakers for the deputation were Dr. Jessie Granger Evans, Major Richardson, Rev. W. P. Cromie, Rural Dean of Willesden; Rev. E. A. Morgan, Chairman of the Willesden Board of Guardians; Mr. Bousfield, K.C.; Miss Councillor Grouse, Mr. P. W. Wilson, Miss K. Hessel, and Mrs. Oliver Strachey.

Special reference was made to the following points:—The new industrial position caused by the war, the problems of demobilisation and reconstruction, the absurdity of the present Register, militancy, the Imperial Conference, and the unity of all the Constitutional Suffrage Societies in supporting the Speaker's Conference as a compromise.

In replying to the deputation, Mr. Mallaby Deeley said he was influenced in receiving the deputation by its representative character. He was under some doubt as to whether the raising of the question of Women's Suffrage as a controversial subject were not a breach of the political truce, and he would therefore ask the members not to press him for a definite pledge. His attitude towards Women's Suffrage had considerably changed since the outbreak of war owing to the magnificent services of women. He realised that militancy was a phase only of the women's movement as it had been of other movements. He was not prepared to say how the difficulties of demobilisation would be met. They were engaging the attention of many thoughtful men. He would never undertake to support equal suffrage between men and women, while women were in the majority. He did not think that the Government would introduce an Electoral Reform Bill during the war owing to the many controversial points it would entail, nor did he think the time at all opportune for raising any question of Women's Suffrage. If, however, the Government should introduce a Bill on the terms of the Speaker's Conference, he would be ready to support it in principle. The Bishop of Willesden thanked Mr. Mallaby Deeley for this frank and clear statement of his views, and for his reception of the deputation, which then withdrew.

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

[*Reports must be written on one side of the paper only, and should be as short as possible. Reports from newspapers should not be sent unless they are very brief.*]

Birmingham.—We have recently had two big meetings, both extremely well attended, and extremely interesting. The first was a Suffrage demonstration on March 7th, when we had the great pleaseure of having Mrs. Fawcett with us. We were publicly supported by eighteen other Societies in the city, the other Suffrage Societies as a matter of course, and in addition such organisations as the Men's Liberal Association, the B.W.T.A., the Trades Council, the N.U.W.W., the Women Teachers' Association, the N.U.R., Women's Co-operative Guilds, Brass Workers, &c. Mr. Anderson, M.P., spoke after Mrs. Fawcett, and we then had an address on the spiritual aspect of the Women's Movement from the Rev. Arnold Pinchard. Mrs. Osler was in the chair. The meeting was preceded by a rendering of "To Women" from Elgar's "Spirit of England," by the Appleby Matthews Choir. A resolution supporting the recommendations of the Speaker's Conference was passed unanimously.

On March 16th we held, jointly with the National Union of Women Workers, a meeting for urging on the city authorities the employment of women police.

Mr. Steel Maitland took the chair, and reserved his address till the end with impressive effect, for he summed up the points of the speakers, and added to their force the weight of his own arguments based on his own personal experience, and upon investigations he had made before coming to the meeting. As a Birmingham Member of Parliament, his support was very valuable. Miss Damer Dawson, who was accompanied by a contingent of her Women Police Force in their very smart uniforms, explained the duties and training, and answered questions. Lady Nott Bower gave a splendid and most interesting speech, which strongly appealed to the very large audience, composed of all kinds of city officials, Councillors, social workers, matrons, magistrates, clergy, doctors, teachers, &c. Mr. Kesterton, the Secretary of the Trades Council, supported the resolution in the name of organised Labour, and Bishop Hamilton Baynes also spoke in favour of the movement. Professor Ashley and Professor Muirhead, Councillor Clara Martineau, and others who were unable to be present had sent letters to be read. The Chief Constable and the Chairman of the Watch Committee attended the meeting, and a considerable number of the Women's Volunteer Reserve. A resolution urging the city authorities to make the experiment was enthusiastically passed.

Miss Geraldine Cooke recently paid us a short visit, during which we tried to arrange Suffrage meetings among the munition workers. It was found, however, that they were too tired, and the hours they worked too long to permit of this being done with much success. The Women's Co-operative Guild arranged ten open meetings for us, however, in various parts of the town, and invited other bodies to join them. "Come and talk to us about the vote, and the future of women in industry," said one of their prominent workers, "we are the mothers of the munition workers, and we are more interested in the question of Women's Suffrage than we have ever been before."

Just now, we also have with us Miss Cecil Preston sent by the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Committee to raise money for the Units. She has got a strong Appeals Committee together, largely composed of Antis, and has commenced her list with subscriptions of over a hundred pounds each from the Suffrage Society and the Burns Society. But I will not say more about her excellent schemes, as she will no doubt wish to write to The Common Cause about it later, herself.

C. R.

ROCHDALE.—A public meeting was held under the auspices of the Rochdale Women's Suffrage Society conjointly with the local Women's Liberal Association, when Lady Fisher-Smith, Councillor Eleanor Rathbone, of Liverpool, and Councillor Harold Shawcross, of Rochdale, spoke in support of a resolution urging the Government to introduce immediate legislation on the lines of the Report of the Speaker's Conference. The meeting was well attended, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

HUNSTANTON.—The annual meeting was held on March 14th at St. Edmund's Vicarage, the Rev. M. F. Bell presiding. The Secretary's report showed that steady work had been done during the year with an increase of membership. The Treasurer's statement and balance-sheet were also very satisfactory, the receipts showing a steady increase for the last three years. Both were read and confirmed. After the business was ended, the Chairman proposed a "resolution" of deepest regret at the sad and heroic death of Mrs. Harley—alluding to the great work done by her for the cause. It was seconded and carried that this resolution be sent to Mrs. Harley's relatives. The Chairman then introduced Mrs. Heitland, Cambridge Society, N.U., who gave a most interesting address on "The Work and Position of Women To-day," and went on to speak of the Electoral Reform Conference. In conclusion, she proposed the following resolution: "That this meeting of the Hunstanton W.S.S. (N.U.W.S.S.), while maintaining its demand for the extension of the franchise to women on the same terms as men, welcomes the proposals for Women's Suffrage, recommended by the majority of the Speaker's Conference, and urges the Government to embody them in its Electoral Reform Bill, so that women of all classes, as well as men, may elect the Parliament which will be responsible for reconstructive legislation after the war." The motion was seconded and carried, and it was agreed a copy be sent to Mr. Hemmerde, M.P., the Prime Minister, and the local press. A collection was taken after the meeting, which amounted to £5 10s., and was divided between the Scottish Women's Hospital and the Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units to Russia. Mr. and Mrs. Bell kindly gave tea to those present after the meeting.

WALLASEY AND WIRRAL.—The annual meeting was held on February 27th, at 8 p.m., in the Liscard Concert Hall. Miss Mahler presided. The Hon. Secretary's report covered the work of the Society from September 1st, 1915, to August 30th, 1916, and showed that the workers had been by no means idle. In November, 1915, a Patriotic Housekeeping Exhibition was held for a week in Seacombe. Haybox, and other cooking demonstrations were given, and various labour-saving devices shown, whilst during the week the Rev. F. A. Screeton, Mrs. Bulley, Mrs. Shilston Watkins, and Mrs. G. Winchester gave interesting addresses on different aspects of economy. During the week nearly 800 persons visited the exhibition, which was opened by the Mayor and Mayoress of Wallasey.

The Tipperary Club, Seacombe, has had a very successful season.

The Maternity Centre and Babies' Welcome (initiated by the Society, and now carried on under the Public Health Department) continues to flourish.

A bed has been named "Wallasey" for six months in the Scottish Women's Hospital at Royaumont, and over £50 collected for the Federation Unit at Kazan. The balance-sheet showed a small amount in hand. The Rev. J. I. Cripps gave an eloquent speech on the necessity for immediate enfranchisement of women. The following resolution was passed and sent to the Member for Wirral: "That this meeting records their satisfaction that the Speaker's Conference has given public assent to the general principle of the enfranchisement of women. They believe that after this affirmation of the principle, no electoral reform legislation without the inclusion of women is possible."

MIDDLESBROUGH.—The annual meeting was held on Wednesday the 14th inst, Mrs. Levick, M.D., presiding. A resolution, expressing deep regret at the death of Mrs. Harley, admiration, and gratitude for her heroic services, and sympathy with her relatives, was passed in silence.

The financial statement for the past year showed a healthy balance. The Secretary's report described the very varied work which was being carried on by members of the Society in connection with the numerous institutions in the town and neighbourhood. Little direct suffrage propaganda had been done, but rapid progress in the general sentiment in favour of women's enfranchisement on a liberal basis was increasingly evident. The local Member, Colonel Penry Williams, M.P., continued to show an active sympathy with our movement.

Mrs. Levick spoke of her own unsuccessful candidature for a vacancy on the Town Council. This was filled by the co-option of a male candidate; the members of the Council, though favourable to the idea of women councillors, being evidently fearful of taking the initiative in the matter. The Rev. A. E. Baker, B.A., delivered an inspiring address, warning the members that upon those who had taken the lead in demanding the wide extension of the electorate would devolve the grave responsibility of seeing to it that educational work was effectively carried on. Faith in the democratic principle, which was a basis of the whole woman's movement, rested upon the assumption of a general educational minimum.

The Council's resolutions (1) urging the inclusion of qualified women on the Committees of all Food Control authorities, and (2) in favour of the Bill to permit qualified women to become solicitors, were read, and unanimously endorsed.

Forthcoming Meetings.

MARCH 23.

Birkenhead—The Nurses' Institute, Park Road South—Annual Meeting—Chairman: Mrs. Duckworth—Speaker: Miss G. F. Rathbone, M.A., C.C. 3 p.m.

Birmingham — Acock's Green — B.W.T.A: — Speaker: Mrs. Ring 3.30 p.m.

Sheffield—Montgomery Hall—Public Meeting—Chairman: Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher—Speaker: Mrs. Fawcett 7.30 p.m.

Streatham—A public meeting at the Streatham Hill High School—Chairman: Rev. W. Geoffrey Bell—Speakers: Miss May Curwen, Miss Clough 8 p.m.

MARCH 24.

Bolton—A Bring One and Buy One Sale, in aid of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals, at the Suffrage Shop, King's Hall Buildings, Bradshawgate — Comforts for soldiers, flowers, food, china, &c., gratefully received 10 a.m.—8 p.m.

MARCH 26.

Birmingham—Holyhead Co-operative Guild—Speaker: Mrs. Ring 8 p.m.

Islington—Claremont Mission, White Lion-street—Speaker: Miss Curwen 8 p.m.

MARCH 28.

Bristol—40, Park Street—N.U.W.S.S. Working Party 3—5 p.m.

Manchester—New Jerusalem Hall, Failsworth—Social for Munition Workers—Entertainment and refreshments—Speaker: Mrs. Annot Robinson 7.30 p.m.

Otford, nr. Sevenoaks—Speaker: Miss Curwen 8 p.m.

Tunbridge Wells—Pump Room—Chairman: Madame Sarah Grand—Speaker: Miss Curwen 3 p.m.

MARCH 29.

Birmingham—Strichley School for Mothers 3 p.m.

Bristol—St. Agnes Vicarage—N.U.W.S.S. Working Party

Crich—Crich Rectory—General Annual Meeting—Speaker: Mrs. Ring

Salford—Caxton Hall—Chapel St. Social for Munition Workers—Entertainment and refreshments—Speakers: Mr. G. G. Armstrong and Mrs. Annot Robinson 7.30 p.m.

MARCH 30.

Brighton—Public Meeting, Chapel Royal Hall, New Road—Chairman: The Mayor of Brighton—Speakers: Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Oliver Strachey 8 p.m.

APRIL 12.

Holt—A Rummage Sale, in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals—Old clothes, unwanted new clothes, and articles of every description will be gratefully acknowledged by the Secretary, Miss Verrall, Letheringsett, Holt, Norfolk—There will be a farm and garden produce stall

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40	3 0	8 6	16 0

All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL & SOCIAL HYGIENE. We must not rest on our oars. The worst features of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill are defeated: we must now examine the new medical proposals for the prevention of venereal disease. (*Vide* correspondence, *Brit. Med. Journal.*) These will be considered at the Annual Meeting of the above Association, on Friday, March 30th, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, at 4 p.m. Subject: **"The Moral Prevention of Venereal Disease."** Speakers: **Dr. Jane Walker, Mrs. Philip Snowden, and Dr. Charles Macalister, F.R.C.P. (of Liverpool).**

Tickets from the Secretary, 19, Tothill-st., S.W. 1.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-st., Piccadilly, W. Wednesday, March 28th, 8 p.m.: "Motherhood," by C. Gasquoine Hartley (Mrs. A. D. Lewis). Chairman, Mr. Cecil Chapman, J.P.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, S.W. Tuesday next, at 3 o'clock. "Soldiers Disabled through Nerve Strain," by Dr. S. E. White.

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CRAFTON GALLERIES
20 per cent. on all Sales to be given to the BRITISH PRISONERS OF WAR FUND
March 1st to 31st. Admission 1s. (tax included)

HELP WANTED.

WANTED, loan of unfurnished house near Epping Forest, for Girl Guides, first fortnight in August. Ladies to sing or play to tired mothers in very poor N. London Mission for short time Monday afternoons, and old clothes or rummage for the poor.—Address Miss Driscoll, 5, Thornhill-sq., London, N.

POSITIONS VACANT.

RELIABLE working housekeeper required, April 15th; two in family; must understand vegetarian cooking.—Apply Mrs. Rose, The Chestnuts, Grosvenor-road East, St. Albans.

WAR WORK.—Will any lady undertake housemaid's work in gardening school; help given.—Training Gardens, Stonehouse, Glos.

WAR WORK.—Wanted, a good, strong woman, to replace odd man in country house where the domestic staff is principally ladies.—Box 6,361, COMMON CAUSE Office.

WANTED.—Lady Housemaid, for country house where lady servants kept.—Box 6,143, COMMON CAUSE Office.

FOR INFANT WELFARE.

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